Forest Insect & Disease Management

Report No. 80-3-10
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AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY OF FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE ACTIVITY, DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, CAPE ROMAIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, SOUTH CAROLINA

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Department of Interior, Cape Romain National Wildlife Refuge

STATE: South Carolina

AREA WITHIN SURVEY BOUNDARY: 34,218 acres

DATE: February 28, 1980

PERCENT COVERAGE: 100%

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 206

CREW: W.A. Carothers, E.T. Wilson

REPORT PREPARED BY: W.A. Carothers

SURVEY OBJECTIVES

(1) To detect the presence of forest insects and/or diseases adversely affecting the timber resource within the survey area.
(2) To accurately record the locations of dead or dying timber.

SURVEY RESULTS

Fourteen spots of dead or dying pines ranging in size from 5-75 trees per spot were observed along the intra-coastal waterway. Southern pine beetles are suspected of causing the tree mortality in these spots. In addition, 15 areas containing pines with brown foliage were observed. These areas ranged in size from 100-500 trees per area. Saltwater damage is the suspected cause since the majority of the damaged foliage was detected on the ocean side of the trees. Foliage damage varied from light to heavy (Refer to map and table).

CONCLUSIONS

Southern pine beetle activity has increased drastically throughout Georgia and South Carolina within the last year. The damaged areas on the Refuge will be ground checked by personnel of the Asheville Field Office to determine the causal agent(s). National Wildlife Refuge personnel should continue their field surveillance activities to assist with early detection of potentially damaging forest insect

or disease problems.

For further information, contact:

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Table 1. Size Categories of Suspected Southern Pine Beetle Spots

	Number of Affected Trees				
	1-10	11-25	26-50	51-100	101+
Number of spots	7	5	1	1	0
Total number of affected trees	57	85	30	75	0